

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Hampton celebrates opening of new center

The City of Hampton will celebrate the opening of the new Little England Cultural Center on Tuesday, July 10 at 10 a.m. at the center, located at 3922 Kecoughtan Road.

The new center will house a variety of programs including afterschool tutoring assistance and computer classes for seniors.

The project has been planned and designed in partnership with the Newtown neighborhood. Planning for the center dates back to the Newtown Neighborhood Plan, which was adopted by City Council in 1998. The neighborhood residents who participated in the planning process wanted to build off the community's social, civic and physical assets. Some of the recommendations in the Newtown Neighborhood Plan



(specifically the Little England Cultural Center) were incorporated into the Kecoughtan Road Corridor Master Plan, which was adopted by City Council in 2006.

City staff and the architecture firm of Folck West Architects worked closely with the Newtown neighborhood residents to develop the design for the new center. The final design pays tribute to the historic Little England Chapel, which is located across the street.

The new center is also a "green" building, designed to meet LEED Silver standards.

The Little England Cultural Center replaced the Newtown Learning Center, which was demolished. The building dated back to 1939 and operated as a bar before being converted into a learning center. The larger size and up-to-date features of the new center will allow the expansion and addition of programs and events.